

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) During a programme arranged by the All India Freedom Fighters Organisation (AIFFO); New Delhi on October 6, 1996, the Prime Minister has assured that the demand for constitution of a Committee to look into the problems of freedom fighters would be considered. Accordingly, the demand has been considered and the Government has set up a Special Audit Team (SAT) with two representatives from the All India Freedom Fighters Organisation headed by the Joint Secretary in-charge of Freedom Fighters Division in the Ministry. The Team is entrusted with the task of examining already rejected freedom fighter pension cases where review applications have been received.

[Translation]

Import-Export of Pulses

490. SHRI NIHAL CHAND CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- whether the Government have made any import-export of pulses during the year 1996;
- if so, when and the quantum thereof;
- whether the Government propose to import-export pulses during the year 1997; and
- if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b)		Qty. in '000 tonnes
Year	Imports	Exports
1995-96	449.5	61.2
1996-97 (upto 11/96)	304.0	29.4

Source : CGCI & S

(c) The import of pulses is freely allowed under Open General Licence where the export is permissible subject to quantitative ceilings fixed by the Ministry of Commerce (DGFT) from time to time in consultation with the Ministries of Agriculture, Food and Civil Supplies.

(d) The Technology Mission on Oilseeds & Pulses have fixed a ceiling of 10,000 tonnes for the export of pulses for the year 1996-97. This will be subject to the views of other Ministries as well.

Oilseeds Production

491 SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- the total production of oilseeds in the country

during the year from 1993 to 1996, oilseeds-wise and year-wise;

- whether the production of oilseeds in the country is sufficient to meet the domestic requirement;
- if not, the reasons therefor;
- whether the Government have formulated any scheme to increase the production of oilseeds during the Ninth Five Year Plan in the country; and
- if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The crop-wise total production of oilseeds in the country during the year from 1993-94 to 1995-96 is enclosed in attached Statement.

(b) and (c) Since the Technology Mission on Oilseeds was launched in 1986, the production of oilseeds has increased from 11.27 million tonnes during 1986-87 to 23.43 million tonnes during 1995-96, which is a major break-through in the production of oilseeds. The availability of edible oils from indigenous sources in the year 1995-96 was 66.70 lakh tonnes as against the demand of 72.70 lakh tonnes as worked out by the Department of Civil Supplies. There is thus a gap of about 6 lakh tonnes of edible oils. This gap still exists on account of demand of edible oils going up on account of high growth of population and rise in the living standards of people.

(d) and (e) Ninth Plan proposals have not yet been finalised, however Centrally Sponsored oilseeds production programme is likely to continue during Ninth Plan.

Statement

All India Estimates of Oilseeds Production

(Lakh tonnes)

CROP	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Groundnut	78.3	80.6	78.1
Castor seed	6.3	8.5	7.8
Sesamum	5.6	5.9	5.5
Nigerseed	2.0	1.9	1.9
Rapeseed-Mustard	53.3	57.6	60.7
Linseed	3.3	3.2	3.1
Safflower	5.2	4.2	4.0
Sunflower	13.5	12.2	13.2
Soyabean	47.5	39.3	49.9
Total Nine Oilseeds	215.0	213.4	224.2